

*Translating Risk
Assessment into Action:
The Detroit Experience*

The Federal Perspective

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USEPA's Air Toxics Strategy

- An integrated framework for addressing air toxics in urban areas by looking at stationary, mobile, and indoor source emissions.
- Goals of the Air Toxics Strategy:
 - Attain a 75% reduction in incidence of cancer from exposure to hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) emitted by large and small stationary sources nationwide;
 - Attain substantial reduction in public health risks (birth defects, reproduction effects, etc.) posed by HAP emissions from small industrial/commercial sources known as areas sources
 - Address disproportionate impacts of air toxics hazards across urban areas such as geographic “hot spots,” highly exposed population subgroups, and predominately minority and low-income communities.

How will USEPA achieve the goals of the Air Toxics Strategy?

- Develop regulations addressing sources of air toxics at both the national and local levels
- Initiate projects at both the national and local level to address specific pollutants and to identify and address specific community risks
- Conduct air toxic assessments to identify areas of concern, to prioritize efforts to reduce risks, and to track progress
- Perform education and outreach to inform stakeholders about the Strategy and to get input into designing programs to implement it.

Community Assessment and Risk Reduction Initiative

- Support implementation of the Air Toxics Strategy
- Allow a better understanding of the nature of air toxics problems due to stationary, mobile and indoor air sources at the local level
- Assist multi-stakeholder community groups in making decisions that result in meaningful risk reductions at the local level beyond those required by Federal rules.
- Unfortunately, this funding mechanism is no longer available.

Why was the DATI funded?

- Compatible with national Air Toxics Strategy and CARRI requirements
 - Project had two phases: risk assessment and risk reduction
- Unique and innovative use of monitoring data
 - Few risk assessments based entirely on monitoring data
- Diverse and knowledgeable stakeholder group

DATI - The Bottom Line

- MDEQ has worked tirelessly and showed great initiative with this project
- DATI has generated a lot of Regional and national interest
- DATI has been a model project in terms of stakeholder cooperation and innovative use of monitoring data
- DATI is a perfect example of why the CARRI funds were so important to our air toxics goals